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ABSTRACT

The essays in this collection stress that cultural diversity has always provided the real strength of America. It is argued that Western culture itself is founded on principles that favor a multicultural vision, and that America should reclaim its multiethnic and multilingual heritage. The greatness of America has always depended on the quality of its immigrants. In reality, there are no foreign languages in America, since the native languages of American citizens constitute virtually all the languages of the world. The following essays are included: (1) "The Semiotics of 'We': First-Person Pluralities in 'Us'"; (2) "Taking the 'Foreign' Out of Foreign-Language Teaching"; (3) "Seeing with Another I: Our Search for Other Worlds"; (4) "Literati and Illiterati: Continuities in the Oral and Written Traditions"; (5) "China and the United States: Reflections on the Old and the New"; (6) "The Three L's: Liberalism, Liberty, and the Liberal Arts"; (7) "The Complexities of Complexion: The Myths of Skin Color"; (8) "Blind to Color, Deaf to Accent: Invisible and Inaudible Immigrants"; (9) "The Logic and Rhetoric of Racism: False Dyads and True"; (10) "Coat of Many Colors: The Myth of a White America"; and (11) "Epilogue: "...Unum." An appendix provides the solution to a puzzle posed in the text. (Contains 57 references.) (SLD)

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